

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 299116

14

ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 MC-02 DHA-02 SCA-01 DPW-01 IO-10 ERDA-05

OES-03 /083 R

DRAFTED BY DOD:DANDERSON;EB

APPROVED BY L:GHALDRICH

EA/J - MR. DEMING

PM - MR. PHELPS

ACDA - COL. STAPLES

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R 191815Z DEC 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 299116

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ICRC, PARM

SUBJECT: LAWS OF WAR - CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS

1. FOR THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS THE SUBJECT OF POSSIBLE RESTRICTIONS OR PROHIBITIONS ON THE USE OF CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS HAS BEEN ON THE AGENDA OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ON THE LAWS OF WAR. THE SUBJECT HAS POSED SOME PROBLEMS FOR THE U.S. SINCE SOME WEAPONS VITAL TO OUR SECURITY INTERESTS HAVE COME UNDER ATTACK ON ALLEGED HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS. WE HAVE THEREFORE APPRECIATED THE SUPPORT WE HAVE HAD FROM JAPAN AND, IN PARTICULAR, FROM THEIR DELEGATES TO THE LUCERNE GOVERNMENT EXPERTS CONFERENCE IN 1974 SPONSORED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS AND THE LAWS OF WAR DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE IN 1975.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 299116

2. DURING THE LATTER DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE, JAPANESE DELE-

GATES INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO BE KEPT INFORMED ON OUR THINKING AND RESEARCH SO THAT WE COULD MORE EFFECTIVELY SUPPORT EACH OTHER AT THE NEXT CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS. THIS NEXT ICRC CONFERENCE IS SCHEDULED TO OPEN IN LUGANO SWITZERLAND ON 28 JANUARY 1976.

3. REQUEST EMBASSY TO TELL THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT SEVERAL USG EXPERTS WOULD BE PREPARED TO MEET WITH

APPROPRIATE GOJ EXPERTS SOMETIME IN JANUARY PRIOR TO THE 28TH. WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO WELCOME THEM IN WASHINGTON, PERHAPS ON THEIR ROUTE TO LUGANO. CONCEIVABLY OUR EXPERTS MIGHT BE ABLE TO GO TO TOKYO, ALTHOUGH IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR BOTH TIME AND BUDGETARY REASONS. ALTERNATIVELY, WE COULD MEET IN GENEVA OR LUGANO JUST PRIOR TO THE CONFERENCE. WE WOULD THINK THAT EITHER ONE OR TWO DAYS OF DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. WE WOULD ALSO BE HAPPY TO PROVIDE JAPANESE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON WITH ANY INFORMATION THEY WOULD FIND USEFUL.

4. IF MR. HIKARU OKA, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE PERMANENT DELEGATION OF JAPAN TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT, IS IN TOKYO HE WOULD BE A GOOD POINT-OF-CONTACT. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE299116
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DANDERSON:EB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750442-0869
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751227/aaaaaxci.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN L
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LAWS OF WAR - CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS
TAGS: PARM, JA, US, ICRC
To: TOKYO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006